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C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 004826

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/22/2016

TAGS: UNGA

SUBJECT: JAPAN EXPECTS RECIPROCAL SUPPORT IN ILC ELECTIONS

REF: STATE 137429

Classified By: Acting Political Minister Counselor Carol Reynolds for reasons 1.4(b), (d)

(C) U.S. Embassy Political Officer delivered reftel demarche August 23 to MOFA International Legal Affairs Division Principal Deputy Director Tomohiro Mikanagi. Mikanagi said that Japan will support U.S. candidate Michael Matheson if the United States supports the Japanese candidate, Ambassador Chusei Yamada. Acknowledging the U.S. policy to not make reciprocal support agreements, Mikanagi said that Japan expects U.S. support for Ambassador Yamada based on an October 2005 conversation in New York between the Ambassador and State Department Legal Advisor, which he called an "informal agreement."

DONOVAN